

SUPERFUND

Fact Sheet

Moses Lake Wellfield Contamination Skyline Water Users - Moses Lake, WA



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

February 2000

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) **will not** be taking interim steps to connect the Skyline water system users to the City of Moses Lake water system. The Skyline water system wells are contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE), a common degreaser. This fact sheet explains the reasons for the decision and describes what happens next to determine a final remedy for the Skyline water system.

EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) invite you to a public meeting on **February 23rd from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Larson Heights Elementary School, 700 Lindberg**. The meeting will cover the decision to not take the interim step of City water hook up. We will also discuss the activities that will take place soon to decide on a final remedy for the Skyline water system.

The Interim Remedy

The Port of Moses Lake and now the USACE have been providing the Skyline water system users with bottled water for the past 5 years. EPA originally made the decision to connect Skyline water system users to City water to provide a different, reliable source of clean water for drinking, cooking and showering.

EPA is not moving forward with the interim remedy for several reasons. First, there was also strong public opposition to the interim measure. Second, the process to choose a final remedy is moving forward and a public comment period on the alternatives and proposed remedy will take place in a couple of months. Finally, EPA has examined the risk determination more closely. EPA had been basing its risk determination on a risk evaluation by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, which indicated that showering was an important factor in establishing exposure for some individuals. However, the original risk information was based on risks from using water from both of the Skyline wells.

Because only one of the wells (which has lower concentrations of TCE) is operational at this time, the new risk evaluation shows that it is not necessary to conduct an interim remedy.

What Happens Next

In March, EPA will release a document called the Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis, or EE/CA. This document will include an evaluation of all the alternatives EPA and the USACE analyzed as final remedies to provide safe water to the Skyline water system users, and will recommend one of the alternatives as the final remedy. The release of the EE/CA also includes a 30-day public comment period, which gives everyone an opportunity to comment, either in writing or in person at a public meeting held to discuss the alternatives and the recommended final remedy. At the close of the public comment period, EPA and the USACE will evaluate all of the public comments and make a decision on the final remedy.

For More Information

The Administrative Record, which includes documents related to this site, is located at the Moses Lake Community Library, at 418 E. 5th Avenue.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following people:

For questions on the Skyline Water System, please contact Lynda Priddy, EPA Project Manager, (206) 553-1987 or toll-free at 1-800-424-4372

For questions on the overall site investigation, or questions regarding bottled water service to Skyline Water System users, please contact Bill Graney, US Army Corps of Engineers, (206) 764-3494

For general questions about the Superfund Site, please contact:
Krista Rave, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at (206) 553-6686 or
Toll-free at 1-800-424-4372

To ensure effective communication with everyone, additional services can be made available to persons with disabilities by contacting one of the EPA representatives.



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***Skyline Water System Users
Public Meeting - February 23rd***